

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☒ no ☐

Property Name: Foxhill Park Bridge Inventory Number: PG:71B-22  
Address: 5001 Collington Road (MD 197) Historic district: yes ☒ no ☐  
City: Bowie Zip Code: 20715 County: Prince Georges  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Bowie  
Property Owner: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Tax Account ID Number: 07-0696260  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 73 Tax Map Number: 46  
Project: MD 197: Kenhill Road to MD 450 Relocated Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration  
Agency Prepared By: Maryland State Highway Administration  
Preparer's Name: Melissa Blair Date Prepared: 10/30/2009  
Documentation is presented in: \_\_\_\_\_  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_  
Criteria: A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: yes Listed: yes  
Site visit by MHT Staff yes ☒ no ☐ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Foxhill Park Bridge is a concrete arch bridge located within the Foxhill Park in Bowie, Maryland. The bridge carries a pedestrian walkway over a man-made lake located on the northern portion of the park property. The lake is part of an east-west flowing tributary to the Collington Branch. The park is surrounded to the north, east, and west by the Belair Development (PG:71B-18), and bound by Collington Road (MD 197) to the west.

The land on which the bridge is located was once the site of large colonial estate, Belair. The estate was home to several Maryland governors during the colonial period and was famous for horse breeding and racing in the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. The original circa 1743 Belair mansion house survives to this day, but is separated from the Foxhill Park Bridge by residential development. In 1898, James T. Woodward purchased the Belair estate, leaving it to his nephew, William Woodward Sr. upon his death in 1910. William Woodward Sr. died in 1953, and after his son's death in 1955, the Levitt and Sons' company bought the entire estate for development in 1958 (National Register Nomination Form "Belair," 1977, p. 8-5). The company constructed the Belair Development between 1960 and 1968, leaving the land surrounding the bridge undeveloped. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission now operates the Foxhill Park on this land.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐  
Criteria: A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

**MHT Comments:**

Jim Sullivan ✓  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

11/18/09  
Date

B. Kuntz  
Reviewer, National Register Program

11/19/09  
Date

200904239

The Woodward family most likely had the bridge constructed during their ownership of the Belair estate. Historic maps do not indicate that the bridge ever carried a public road, but most likely served to carry a private road or path on the large estate. Architectural evidence suggests a construction date circa 1920. The bridge is a five-span concrete arch bridge faced with sandstone. The spandrel walls are laid in regular courses with beaded mortar joints and the arch consist of ashlar voussoirs. The arches rest on four square concrete and masonry piers. The barrels are concrete without masonry cladding. The deck has an asphalt surface and low castellated stone parapets. Mature trees and shrub to the north of the bridge indicate the location of the former northern approach, which points in the general direction of the Belair mansion house. The area to the south of the bridge is heavily wooded.

According to the Historic Highway Bridges in Maryland Historic Context Report (P.A.C. Spero & Co., 1995, p. C-56), character-defining elements (CDEs) for a concrete arch bridge include the arch ring, barrel, spandrel walls, parapets, abutments, wing walls, and piers. The Foxhill Park Bridge never had wing walls, but all other CDEs are intact and in good to excellent condition. There is some wear on the parapets and evidence of scouring on the piers, but overall the bridge exhibits integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The Foxhill Park Bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The bridge is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A). The bridge is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B). The bridge is eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C as an excellent example of a concrete arch bridge. The Foxhill Park Bridge is not likely to yield information important in prehistory or history (Criterion D).

The bridge's historic boundary encompasses only the bridge and ground upon which it stands. The boundary was drawn to exclude the surrounding Foxhill Park, which is less than fifty years and not yet evaluated.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria:    \_\_\_ A    \_\_\_ B    \_\_\_ C    \_\_\_ D    Considerations:    \_\_\_ A    \_\_\_ B    \_\_\_ C    \_\_\_ D    \_\_\_ E    \_\_\_ F    \_\_\_ G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

DC: 71B-22  
 Fox Mill Park Bridge  
 Bowie, MD  
 USGS Bowie Quad  
 Prince George's County

**Maryland State Highway Administration  
Cultural Resources Section  
Photo Log**

**Project No.:** PG691A11

**Project Name:** MD 197: Kenhill Drive to MD 450 Relocated

**MIHP No.:** PG:71B-22

**MIHP Name:** Foxhill Park Bridge

**County:** Prince George's

**Photographer:** Melissa Blair

**Date:** 10-21-09

**Ink and Paper Combination:** Epson UltraChrome pigmented ink/Epson Premium Luster Photo Paper

[illegible]





PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's County

M. Blair

MD SHPO

West Elevation, View East

Photo 1 of 8



PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's County

Mr. Blair

MD SHPO

West Elevation, View Northeast

Photo 2 of 8





PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's County

M. Blair

MD SHPO

West Elevation, View East

Photo 3 of 8



PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's Cnty

M. Blair

MD SHPO

West Elevation detail

Photo 4 of 8



PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's County

M. Blair

MD SHPO

East Elevation, View Southwest

Photo 5 of 8





PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's County

M. Blair

MD SHPO

West Parapet detail

Photo 6 of 8



PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's County

M. Blair

MD SHPO

Bridge deck, View North

Photo 7 of 8



PG: 71B-22

Foxhill Park Bridge

5001 Collington Road, Bowie

Prince George's Canty

M. Blair

MD SHPO

View South

Photo 8 of 8